

LEADERSHIP TEAM

DALE BARRETT
Senior Pastor

MARK JOHNSON
Associate Pastor

WARD WILLOUGHBY
Senior Adult Pastor

DAN SIMPSON
Lay Pastor

CHRISTIAN CARTER
Youth Pastor

EVELYN TEMPLE
Children's Ministry Dir.

MARLENE THROSSEL
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BOARD OF ELDERS
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Mike Finch
John Hickman

BOARD OF DEACONS
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Connection To Inspire and Inform Grace Fellowship

May 2009 www.gracefellowshipamador.org

From the Pastor...

"About CEO's..."

Someone jokingly said to me on Resurrection Sunday, "This is "CEO Sunday". "What is that?", I asked, and he responded, "Christmas and Easter Only!" It was not said in a derogatory sense, but in recognition of the fact that on Christmas and Easter some people get to church that are never there the rest of the year.

We understand that at Grace Fellowship and welcome it as a great privilege to welcome our community, knowing that "CEO's" may be there. Accordingly, our Good Friday service was a wonderful opportunity to set in focus the meaning of Christ's death, and Communion a meaningful way to "*proclaim Christ's death until He comes*". Our Sunrise service was highlighted by Pastor Ward's compelling message that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is something to "shout about!" On the top of our property overlooking the beautiful

green hills of Amador County, with a fire crackling in the cold morning hours, over one hundred of us welcomed the glorious day!

Our breakfast brunch, prepared by the ladies of the church, serviced about two hundred who came to enjoy pancakes and egg casserole and the warm fellowship of our church family. The worship service that followed featured an exciting worship time led by our worship team and the message, "The Empty Tomb: Where Death is Swallowed Up in Victory". Several responded to receive Christ and another called to inform me that their son-in-law had given his life to Christ on Resurrection Sunday, following the service. For me, it was a weekend to remember!

What happens to the "CEO's" after Resurrection Sunday? How

can we persuade them to seriously consider following Christ? Is it not our mission to be "Christ's ambassadors as though Christ were making His appeal through us"? (see II Corinthians 5:20). It is why we exist, at least in part, to declare to a needy world, "*Be reconciled to God!*" A diminished budget may appear at first glance to short-circuit our ability to continue to do this effectively, but we continue to be focused on creatively identifying resources as good stewards to extend the kingdom of God.

The challenge is to not become "CEO's" as well "Christians Exalting Orselfs"—and missing the opportunity to make every weekend a resurrection weekend, punctuated with the hope we have in Christ and the privilege of being Christ's ambassadors of the "good news" not on Christmas and Easter only!

Prime Timers– Senior Adult Fellowship

Pastor Ward Willoughby

In her book, "Help Lord! I'm Having a Senior Moment," Karen O'Conner tells the story of an elderly widow and widower who lived in a mobile home park in Florida. They had known each other for years and had become good friends, but each had a senior moment that nearly broke up their budding romance!

One evening during a community supper in the activity center, the two were seated across from each other at the same table. During the course of the meal, the man cast a few admiring glances at the women. She returned his attention with shy smiles. Finally, he gathered enough courage to ask her an important question, "Will you marry me?" After

a few seconds of careful consideration, she responded, "Yes. Yes, I will."


The meal ended with more pleasant exchanges. They said good night and each went home.

The next morning the man awakened feeling troubled. "Did she say, "Yes" or did she say, "No"?" he pondered aloud. "I can't recall!"

He didn't have even a faint memory of the woman's response. Embarrassed, he reached for the telephone and dialed her number. She answered and he quickly explained that he was no longer remembering things as well as he used to. He hoped she'd be patient with him, "I enjoyed our time together at dinner,"

he said, "but one thing puzzles me. When I asked you to marry me, did you say, 'yes' or 'no'?" Why, I said, "Yes. Yes, I will, and I meant it with all my heart," the woman replied. "And I am so glad you called," she continued, "because I couldn't remember who asked me."

How like these two we are sometimes. The Lord asks us to do something, and we can't remember what it is - or do we intentionally forget? Or we hear Him clearly and simply ignore taking action until it's too late? May the Lord help us to be more attentive to His voice.



****National Day of Prayer****
 Thursday, May 7th
 5th Annual Prayer Breakfast
 7:00-9:00 a.m.
 Calvary Chapel
 18400 Ridge Rd., Pine Grove
 Marty Hooper will be speaking.
 Tickets are \$10 per person.
 For more information call Calvary Chapel at 296-5673



2nd Annual Comedy Night
 Saturday, May 9th
 7:00 p.m.

Admission: Ages 12 & up \$10.00
 Doors open at 6:30
 See you there!

HAPPY



ANNIVERSARY

- May Anniversaries**
- 3. Gary & Janet Humphrey
 - 5. Norm & Shirley Hertlein
 - 9. Russ & Judy Baker
 - 15. Charlie & Michelle Throssel
 - 19. Chris & Stacey Larson
 - 20. Dick & Helen Granlund
 - 26. Sandy & Barbara Woodside

News and Notes

* Chad and Jen Arterbury were home to visit over the Easter holiday. Ed also took a short break from his work in Alabama with Vapor Sports where a new thrift store is being considered.

* Carol Smith is preparing for a missionary trip and speaking responsibilities in Jamaica . We will be praying for her in our April 26th worship service.

*We are glad that Carol Myer is recuperating at home after surgery. Remember her in prayer as she seeks to regain her strength.

*Our prayers are for Wendy Chadwick and her family, following her father's death April 13th. Jeremy and Wendy and the boys were in Santa Cruz visiting him when he passed away.

* Logan Carnell leaves for a missionary teaching trip on April 24th. Remember him in prayer while he is gone.

*Marty and Maxine Hooper are planning to go to China on an evangelistic mission May 14th. They need to raise \$6000 for their travel expenses. Pray that Maxine will continue to feel strong enough to join Marty on the trip.

* Marlene Throssel began a new ministry to women on Friday evening, April 17th. It is called "Mug Mates" and is a time of fellowship for women at Grace to get to know each other. Martha Johnson and Mayari were the "guest" speakers.

*Duke Foster and Ron Spradlin will be facilitating a class called "Men Matters" on May 5th (1st And 3rd Tuesdays) at the church library, focusing on a study of the book, EVERY MAN'S BATTLE . The first twelve who sign up will receive a free study book.

*Our Resurrection weekend services were well-attended with a great Good Friday service, over 100 at our sunrise service,

nearly 200 participating in our Brunch and a full house for worship.

*A memorial service was held for Elsie Kibbe, former member, on April 18th and a memorial service for Jim Dalton is scheduled for May 2nd.

*About 15-20 pastors from the area were hosted here for our monthly Pastor's Fellowship Luncheon. Lisa Spiro and Marlene Throssel hosted the event. Pastor Dale spoke and introduced Rennie Simpson as a counseling resource for the church community.

*Our first "No Talent" Talent Show was held April 19th with about twenty different acts participating. "Thanks" to Evelyn Temple for all the hard work she did in organizing this "fun" event.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. John Walsh | 8. Gary Humphrey | 20. Darlene Mathews |
| 1. Brad Wheat | 10. Barbara Brusatori | 20. Renee Beazie |
| 1. Sierra Whaling | 11. Maddy Hammam | 22. Carmen Lego |
| 3. Judy May | 16. Michael McCarty | 22. Emma Cranfill |
| 3. Rob Treat | 17. Noah Bunting | 27. Mark Carey |
| 5. Jeremy Chadwick | 18. Chris Looney | 28. Trevor Hammam |
| 5. Phillip MacClanahan | 18. Aaron Wiebe | 29. Justin Hauser |
| 6. Carolyn simpson | 19. Jim LeGoullon | 30. Joshua Whaling |
| 7. Barbara Donnelly | 20. Morgan Johnson | |
| 7. Alexis McCarty | 20. Keith Kerr | |



Women's Ministries

Psalm 121 “ I raise my eyes towards the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not allow my foot to slip; my Protector will not slumber. Indeed, the Protector of Israel does not slumber or sleep. The Lord protects me; the Lord is a shelter right by my side. The sun will not strike me by day, or the moon by night. The lord will protect me from all harm; He will protect my life. The Lord will protect my coming and going

both now and forever.”

In our Beth Moore study we were asked to memorize this psalm, what a wonderful ability God has given us to hide His Word in our hearts. I would like to encourage you to choose a passage of scripture or a favorite psalm and begin to memorize it this month. Be sure to tell someone so they can keep you accountable. This exercise is not only invaluable for your own spiritual growth in the Lord, but it also allows you to speak

God's truth to your friends and loved ones.

We hope to see you at the Spring Tea it will be a real treat. May our God bless this May for you, it is a special month for me, I reach the over the hill this birthday but I like to think of it as just *picking up speed*. Join me as I race towards the finish line.

In His Service,
Carolyn

****Events to put on your Calendar!****

REST HOME MINISTRY

Sunday, May 3

Gold Quartz Inn at 1:30 p.m. All are invited to attend. For more information see Pastor Ward or call him at 296-3381

Amador Choraliers Spring Concert - “Looking Up”

Sunday, May 3rd @ 3:00PM
Sutter Creek Auditorium
Tickets - \$10 per person.

Men Matters

BEGINS Tuesday, May 5th!
A new study and share opportunity for men on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of the month in the church library at 7pm. The study topic will be a book, Every Man's Battle, challenging men to live a pure and holy life in a sinful and sensual world. Duke Foster, leading, Ron Spradlin assisting. A free book for the first twelve who sign up!

MEN'S CAMP

May 29-31
Silver Spur

LADIES' TEA

Saturday, May 16th
11:30-1:00 p.m.
Nancy Johnson's home
81 N. Pioneer Circle, Jackson
Guest speaker: Maxine Hooper
Cost: \$10

Mother's Day Origins.... Where did Mother's Day come from?

Every year on the second Sunday of May, families in the United States and several other countries celebrate Mother's Day. In this issue of Glimpses, we take a look at the origin of that celebration. Mother's Day, as we know it, began with Anna M. Jarvis. Anna was deeply attached to her mother, Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis was the daughter of a pastor and taught in Sunday school at the St. Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. One of Mrs. Jarvis' dreams had been to establish a Mother's Day. She died in 1905 without ever achieving her goal. Two years later, the Sunday school superintendent of the Grafton congregation asked Anna (the daughter) to help him arrange a memorial for the woman who had been so influential in his church. This set Anna thinking. Remembering her mother's dream of an annual Mother's Day, she decided to take up her mother's cause. It seemed to her that children often did not do enough to show their appreciation for mothers and all their mothers did for them. Grafton held a special service on the second Sunday of May 1907, the anniversary of Mrs. Jarvis' death. The following year, Anna convinced her own church in Philadelphia to hold a Mothers' Day service on May 10, 1908. Anna supplied the church with white carnations, her mother's favorite flower. After this celebration, Anna

wrote thousands of letters and held many interviews to promote a national Mother's Day. She also enlisted friends to help her cause. Others had made similar attempts to establish an annual Mother's Day and failed. It took Anna and her friends six years, but at last they succeeded. On May 8, 1914, both houses of the United States Congress passed resolutions establishing a Mother's Day observance. The next day, acting on the authority of that resolution, President Wilson issued a Mothers' Day proclamation, which read in part: "Now, Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the author-

ity vested in me by the said Joint Resolution, do hereby direct the government officials to display the United States flag on all government buildings and do invite the people of the United States to display the flag at their homes or other suitable places on the second Sunday in May as a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country." Nine years after Mother's Day had been established, Anna was in court, having filed lawsuits because she wanted to put a stop to the commercialization of Mother's Day. Her intention had been to create a day of reflection and quiet prayer in families, a day for thanking God for mothers and all that

they do for us. Instead, it had become a merchant's paradise. Alas, Anna's lawsuit was doomed to failure. Today, the sale of Mother's Day cards alone can approach \$150 million in a year. After this, Anna became bitter. Events conspired to darken her final days. She lost her property. A sister whom she cared for died. She herself became almost blind and deaf. In dire poverty, she was forced to appeal for public assistance. Friends gathered around her and raised enough money to ease her last years. Anna died in 1944. Ironically, she never married or had a child of her own to call her mother.

Today, Mother's Day is not usually celebrated by quiet prayer or the display of flags that Anna envisioned, but with gifts, cards, visits, phone calls, hugs, thank you's and other tokens of affection. In some countries, the celebration of appreciation lasts for two days. Thanks to the efforts of Anna M. Jarvis, Mother's Day is observed not only in the United States but also in Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Turkey and parts of Africa and South America. In 1962, the Methodist Episcopal Church of Grafton, Virginia (which held the "first" Mother's Day celebration), was incorporated as the International Mother's Day Shrine. Located on main street in downtown Grafton, it is open to the public Monday through Friday.



Midnight Madness by Darren Benton

Three weeks ago I had the privilege of going to my first concert, and God blessed me with getting to listen to two of the best Christian bands that I have ever heard. Calvary Chapel was gracious enough to host an event entitled “Midnight Madness”. This event included youth groups from all over the county gathering together to praise God, play games, and enjoy one another’s company. The games included laser-tag, a rock-climbing wall, the bungee run, and an inflatable obstacle course. The games were a blast. Round Table was generous enough to donate over 100 pizzas, so that the volunteers from the county youth groups would not have the extremely demanding job off feeding over 600 hungry teenagers who attended—which every parent knows--would be a never-ending job.

After about an hour of enjoying the many fun games that were provided for us, almost everyone moved into the gym to listen to the bands that were

lined up for our enjoyment. The first band that played was called the “Josiah James Band” They came out on stag, and



started praising His name in a soft rock fashion. After a very respectable variety of songs, the “Josiah James Band” took their leave, and the even better band “Johannes” came onto the stage. “Johannes” got the crowd pumped, and unleashed an awesome hard rock Christian melody, the likes of which I have never heard before. After they played their songs, the band moved out into the middle of the floor, and had everyone



gather in a circle around them. Then they had us all sing their favorite song called “Hey Donkey”. It was very funny hearing everyone try to sing in unison the lyrics that he had just taught us. After “Johannes” had left the stage, Pastor Charleton came up a delivered an outstanding Gospel message, the likes of which I have only heard when Pastor Dale gave his amazing service on Easter.

To be a part of such an awesome event is a blessing that I will be ever thankful for. During next years’ “Midnight Madness,” I encourage everyone-young and “seasoned”—to come out and enjoy a truly memorable time.



Children's Ministry

The 3 years thru Kindergarten Sunday School Class was asked:

"What do you like best about Sunday School?"

Rebekah Garcia - "I like to go in my classroom and do crafts."

Aaron Wiebe - "Playing with my other friend, Nathan Johnson and doing Power Rangers."

Taylor Hooper - "I like to play at church."

Joel Schopf - Joel was at a loss for words. He loves Sunday School so much that all he could do was smile!

Nathan Wiebe - "Cookies!"

The cookies were then heralded as a Sunday favorite, as Morgan Chase and Nathan Schopf eagerly agreed.

their sweetness, humor, and boundless energy.

"And, of course, the cookies."



Michael Hooper - "I like to play!"

Emma Cranfill - "Puzzles."

Chris Garcia and Chris George - "Our precious kids who never fail to delight and amuse us with

Stay Tunned for upcoming information about Sunrock Kids' Camp. VBS August 2009!!!!!!

May 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 J.H. Parents Orientation BBQ
3 Rest Home Ministry 1:30 Choralier Concert 3pm	4	5 Men Matter 7 pm Library	6	7 National Day of Prayer Breakfast 7-9 Bd. Mtg. 6:30 Choir 6:00pm	8	9 Comedy Night 7pm
10 Mother's Day 	11	12	13	14 Choir 6:00pm	15	16 Women's Spring Tea 11:30-1pm
17	18	19 Men Matter 7 pm Library	20	21 LTD 6:30pm Choir 6:00pm	22	23
24	25 Youth Memorial day event	26	27	28 LTD 6:30 Choir 6:00pm	29 Men's Camp Silver Spur 29th-31st	30
31 Baccalaureate Service HS Grads.						